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(RIME users can RO mail to ->35,
Fidonet users can Netmail to 1:278/309)

NEWSLINE RADIO - CBBS EDITION #896 - POSTED 10/15/94

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The petition to change the rules was filed by Guy A. Matzinger, KB7PNQ. Matzinger is a 67-year-old Technician class licensee from Cheney, Washington. In his petition Matzinger argued that old age results in diminished faculties. He even equated people 65 and older with the severely disabled in terms of passing a CW exam.

To back up his claim, Matzinger introduced the results of a survey he conducted that said 63 percent of those he contacted supported an exemption for speeds above 5 WPM for anyone over age 65.

But in turning away Matzingers' request the FCC says that the survey was flawed. It notes that the study provided only a statistical age profile of those contacted but did not say how many people were actually surveyed.

The FCC says that similar petitions have been denied in the past. This is because the current Amateur Radio license structure is based on the desires of the amateur service community and on the thousands of comments it received on previous petitions.

The Commission also notes that its rules already provide for Morse code exemptions for candidates with certain recognized disabilities. It adds that the Matzinger petition got the usual public notice, but says it received no comments at all on this regulatory change request.

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CONGRESS ACTS TO SUPPORT HAM RADIO

A joint congressional resolution supporting Amateur Radio was successfully passed through both houses of Congress in the wee hours of the morning of October 7. The bill asks for "reasonable accommodation" in the operation of Amateur Radio in homes, automobiles and public places.

It was a last ditch effort by Senators Charles Robb, Wendell Ford and Alan Simpson to make Senate Joint Resolution 90 a reality. The bill passed on the floor of the Senate under unanimous consent at 12:10 AM. It then went to the House of Representatives. There it was brought up by Congressman Al Swift and passed unanimously at 2:45 AM. Patricia Spurlock, a staffer for Senator Robb, and Stephanie Vance, a staffer for Congressman Mike Kreidler, worked overtime on the bill. You may remember that it was Kreidler introduced the original House version.

Passage was assisted by the efforts of David Leach, counsel to the House Energy Commerce Committee, along with Jerry Waldron and Colin Crowell of the House Telecommunication and Finance Subcommittee.

Not since the days when Barry Goldwater, K7UGA served in the senate has Amateur Radio seen this kind of support from Capitol Hill.

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ARRL WINNERS

ARRL Directors and Vice Directors have been elected or re-elected by acclimation in several league divisions. This happens when only one person was nominated and eligible. At this point the Elections Committee declared that candidate elected.

Those running unopposed this year and elected included Hudson Division Director Steve Mendelsohn, WA2DHF and Vice Director Paul Vydareny WB2VUK; New England Division Director Bill Burden WB1BRE and Vice Director Warren Rothberg WB1HBB; Rocky Mountain Division Vice Director Walt Stinson W0CP; Southwestern Division Director Fried Heyn WA6WZO and Vice Director Art Goddard W6XD. Finally, in the West Gulf Division Tom Comstock N5TC was re-elected as Director and former Director and ARRL Vice President Jim Haynie, WB5JBP comes in as the new West Gulf Vice Director.

There were several divisions with contested elections. Ballots have been mailed to ARRL members in those divisions where a vote to decide the winners is required.

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TASMA'S RADUS STEPPING DOWN

Out on the west coast, Attorney Sidney Radus, N6OMS, the current chairman of the Two Meter Area Spectrum Management Association of Southern California says that he will not stand for reelection. He blames a mis-information campaign as his reason to step aside.

In a letter to the TASMA membership and faxed to Newsline, Radus says that someone has been putting out information that the now defunct \$10 a year contribution was a mandatory database maintenance fee. He says that it was his understanding that payment was voluntary and intended to fund the work of the groups Interference Committee.

According to Radus, much dis-information has been floated on packet radio, on the Prodigy system, on America OnLine and in the ham press regarding the purpose of the ten dollar donation. And, while N6OMS stops short of naming names, he does say that there are apparently some people who are -- and we quote --- "who are attempting to generate a self fulfilling prophecy and stir up more turmoil and trouble" -- end quote.

Radus says that he cannot condone and will not be a party to obtaining money under false pretense. For that reason he says that he has decided not to seek reelection as TASMA chairman.

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AT&T FORMS TEAM TO TRACK HACKERS

AT&T Corp.'s Global Business Communications Systems says that it has formed an investigative unit to monitor, track and catch phone-system hackers in the act of committing toll fraud. The unit will profile hacker activity and initiate "electronic stakeouts" with its business communications equipment customers in cooperation with law enforcement agencies, and work with them to prosecute the thieves. The company says that its goal is not only to defend against hackers but to get them off the street."

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RAY BRIEM SHOW - HAM RADIO SPECIAL

Hi. I'm Ray Brien, N6FFT. As many of you know, for the past thirty years I have hosted an all night talk show on radio station KABC in Los Angeles. And for the past several years I have devoted at least one night a year to talk about one of my favorite subjects, ham radio.

Well, at the end of the year I plan to retire. Before I do I want to hold one more Ray Briem Ham Radio Special. We plan to have some of the best known ham radio operators with us in the studio. Others worldwide will join in by telephone.

It's an all star ham radio line up to big to list here, but I will tell you that you won't be disappointed.

I've chosen Saturday morning October the 29th for this special event. We start at 5 minutes after midnight and go till 5 in the morning. The nighttime signal of our powerful 5000 watt KABC transmitter means that many of you should be able to hear us throughout the western United States.

So come and join us the morning of October 29th -- at 5 minutes past midnight for the last ever Ray Briem Show Ham Radio Special over KABC radio in Los Angeles. That's 790 on your AM dial. Who knows. We may even QSL.

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DISABLED HAMS FUND

The ARRL Foundation has established The Program for the Disabled Fund. This, to raise funds for the development of educational and informational materials for disabled licensed or prospective hams. Your contribution can help make popular ARRL publications available in forms most useful to disabled hams and their instructors. For more information please contact The ARRL Program for the Disabled Fund, 225 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut 06111.

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SMRS FRAUD CHARGE

The Securities and Exchange Commission, responding to a complaint about a Florida based licensing mill has teamed up with the FCC's Miami office to act in the case. As a result, an investment company brokering the sale of Specialized Mobile Radio System and Private Carrier licenses as investments through infomercial television advertising is now charged with interstate fraud.

The FCC Miami Office provided information about licensing procedures and developed facts that showed the investment firm had been charging an average of \$7,000 for each license. The SEC has seized the company and issued a temporary restraining order against its owners doing further business. Before it was able to stop the scheme some 12,000 investors had been dinged.

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DP3MIR ACTIVE ABOARD MIR SPACE STATION

German Astronaut Dr. Ulf Merbold is on the air from the Russian MIR space station signing DP3MIR. This, during the ESA EUROMIR 94 mission.

In order to give actual information regarding the mission to as many radio amateurs and SWLs as possible, he is using the digital voice memory of MIR's ham radio rig designed and built by Thomas Kieselbach, DL2MDE. Kieselbach made arrangements with DP3MIR to load actual spoken reports into the digital memory. The reports in English and German are being retransmitted automatically on 145.550 Mhz FM in regular time intervals.

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PRODIGY JOINS INTERNET

Prodigy Services Co. has announced easier access to and help on the Internet. This, for its novice members who often receive insulting messages from more seasoned users on the world's largest high tech computer network.

Reports quoting the Reuter news agency say that Prodigy will offer a tutorial for new Internet user practice and education, simple point-and-click retrieval of frequently asked questions on Internet discussion groups and a primer on what Internet types call "Netiquette. That being the protocol demanded of all new Internet users by those already there.

Prodigy also plans to set up its own node on the Internet, which would enable Prodigy to offer content and services to Internet users.

William Day, a Prodigy product manager, is quoted as saying that his users frequently send test messages to the Internet newsgroups. As a result, many are "flamed" or insulted, by the

typical sophisticated computer users on the Internet system.

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UK AWARD

From Great Britain comes word that Roger Betts G0TRB, has been named as the recipient of the RSGB Supreme Transmitting Award in recognition of his three Senior Awards for operation on 50 Mhz, 144 MHz and 432 MHz. He also received an updated award for contacting fifty countries on the six meter band.

On 70 MHz, a band not available in the United States or ITU Region 2, Derek Thom, G3NKS, has been awarded certificates for 60 countries, 40 locator squares and 8 countries worked and confirmed.

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UK BEACON

Also from the United Kingdom , word that the 23cm beacon GB3CLE will have to close down at its existing site next March. Two alternative sites have been offered. One is near Oswestry in North-West Shropshire and the other is near Newtown. The sponsors of the beacon, the Salop Amateur Radio Society, invites users to indicate their preference. Anyone who uses this beacon, and who would like a say in its future, should contact the keeper, Don Goddard, G3UQH, at his Callbook address.

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DX

In DX, word a large international team of hams will travel to Mexico's Naval Base of Socorro Island from 23 October through 01 November including a multi-single entry in the CQ World Wide SSB Contest. Signing XF4M, the team will operate on all HF bands and modes including RTTY and the RS-12 satellite.

Socorro Island is in the Revillagigedos Islands Group and this DXpedition also marks the first contest effort ever from Revillagigedos.

Also, for the first time ever, the Mexican military will permit two prominent Russian amateurs to operate from this strategic island. They are Andy Chesnokov UA3AB and Igor Booklan RA3AUU. Both are well-known for DXpeditions to Afghanistan and Myanmar Republic in Burma.

Others on the team include Frank Smith AH0W, Ed Kritsky NT2X, Gabriel Valdez XE2Z, Alfonso Belmar XE1ILH, Pepe Lozano XE1MX, Victor Keller XE1VIC, and Motoaki Saito JH1EDB.

All stations working XF4M will get a prompt QSL from JH1AJT.

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NEW BABY

And finally, back in 1987 this reporter had the good fortune to host a ham radio promotional video called The New World of Amateur Radio. Those of you who have seen that show will remember I was joined on screen by two teenage hams. Well -- Nathan Pyle KB6PLH and Kelly Howard N6PNY were teen-agers back then.

Since 1990, Kelly Howard has been Mrs. Steven Lenert, and on Sunday night, October 2nd she gave birth to her first child, a 7 pound boy named Michael Steven.

Through "The New World of Amateur Radio," Kelly brought a lot of joy to hams around the world. And through the magic of that video she has remained a very special part of all of our lives.

So as we end this weeks newscast, we ask you to join with us in congratulating Kelly Lenert, N6PNY and her husband Steven on this very special moment in their lives. We also welcome Michael Steven Lenert into his own new world, that some day may even include Amateur Radio. Who knows what the future will bring.

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And for this week, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline. You can write to us at:

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